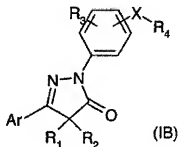
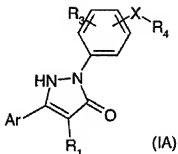


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (IA) or (IB) or a pharmaceutically or veterinarily acceptable salt thereof:



wherein

Ar represents an optionally substituted monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic or heteroaromatic group having from 5 to 10 ring atoms,

R₁ and R₂ independently represent H, or C₁-C₆ alkyl;

R₃ represents H; F; Cl; Br; -NO₂; -CN; C₁-C₆ alkyl optionally substituted by F or Cl; or C₁-C₆ alkoxy optionally substituted by F;

R₄ represents a carboxylic acid group (-COOH) or an ester thereof, or -C(=O)NR₆R₇, -NR₇C(=O)R₆, -NR₇C(=O)OR₆, -NHC(=O)NR₇R₆ or -NHC(=S)NR₇R₆ wherein

R₆ represents H, or a radical of formula -(Alk)_m-Q wherein

m is 0 or 1

Alk is an optionally substituted divalent straight or branched C₁-C₁₂ alkylene, or C₂-C₁₂ alkenylene, or C₂-C₁₂ alkynylene radical or a divalent C₃-C₁₂ carbocyclic radical, any of which radicals may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S- or -N(R₈)- radicals

wherein R₈ represents H or C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₃-C₄ alkenyl, C₃-C₄ alkynyl, or C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, and

Q represents H; -CF₃; -OH; -SH; -NR₈R₈ wherein R₈ is defined as above, and each R₈ may be the same or different, or form a ring when taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached; an ester group; or an optionally substituted aryl, aryloxy, cycloalkyl, or cycloalkenyl or heterocyclic group; and

R₇ represents H or C₁-C₆ alkyl; ~~or when taken together with the atom or atoms to which they are attached R₆ and R₇ form a monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 5, 6 or 7 ring atoms; and~~

X represents a bond or a divalent radical of formula -(Z)_n-(Alk)- or -(Alk)-(Z)_n- wherein Z represents -O-, -S- or -NH-, Alk is as defined in relation to R₆ and n is 0 or 1.

2. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R₁ in compounds (IA) and each of R₁ and R₂ in compounds (IB) is other than hydrogen.
3. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R₄ represents a carboxylic acid group (-COOH) or an ester group of formula -COOR wherein R is methyl, ethyl n- or iso-propyl, n-, sec- or tert-butyl, or benzyl.

4. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_6 represents a radical of formula $-(Alk)_m-Q$ wherein m is 1, Alk is $-CH_2-$, CH_2CH_2- , $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$, or $-CH_2CH(CH_3)CH_2-$, or a divalent cyclopropylene, cyclopentylene or cyclohexylene radical, optionally substituted by OH, oxo, CF_3 , methoxy or ethoxy, and Q represents hydrogen; $-NR_8R_8$ wherein each R_8 may be the same or different and selected from hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n - or isopropyl or tert-butyl; a methyl, ethyl or benzyl ester; or an optionally substituted phenyl, phenoxy, cyclopentyl, or cyclohexyl, ~~furyl, thienyl, piperidyl, or piperazinyl~~ group.

5. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_7 represents hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n - or iso-propyl, n -, sec- or tert-butyl; ~~or when taken together with the atom or atoms to which they are attached R_6 and R_7 form a monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 5, 6 or 7 ring atoms;~~

6. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein Ar is optionally substituted phenyl, 2-, 3-, or 4-pyridyl, 2-, or 3-furyl, 2-, or 3-thienyl, benzfur-2-yl, or benzthien-2-yl.

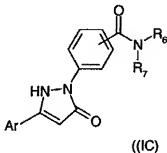
7 (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein Ar is substituted by F, Cl, methyl, methoxy, or methylenedioxy.

8. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein Ar is 3-fluorophenyl, or 2- or 3-furyl.

9. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_3 is H, F, Cl, methyl, methoxy, or methylenedioxy.

10. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein X is a bond, or a $-CH_2-$ or $-CH_2CH_2-$ radical.

11. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 which is of formula (IC) or a pharmaceutically or veterinarily acceptable salt thereof:



12. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 11 wherein the radical $-C(=O)NR_6R_7$ is in the 4-position of the phenyl ring.

13. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 11 wherein R_7 is hydrogen and R_6 is $-AlkNR_8R_8$ wherein the R_8 groups are as defined in claim 1.

14. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical or veterinary composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 1 together with a pharmaceutically or veterinarily acceptable excipient or carrier.

15. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 14 wherein the compound is in an amount effective for treatment of conditions which benefit from immunomodulation.

16. (Currently Amended) A medicament for the treatment of conditions which benefit from immunomodulation comprising an effective amount of the compound according to claim 1 together with a pharmaceutically or veterinarily acceptable excipient or carrier; wherein the conditions are selected from rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, multiple sclerosis, and diabetes.

17. (Canceled)